This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture for managing devices, wherein the article of manufacture causes operations to be performed, the operations comprising:

receiving, by a proxy, a request implemented via at least one device independent class;

traversing, by the proxy, a class hierarchy database to determine at least one device specific class that corresponds to the at least one device independent class, wherein the class hierarchy database stores a class hierarchy and associations between classes; [[and]]

modifying, by the proxy, the received request, wherein in the modified request the least one device independent class has been translated to the at least one device specific class;

generating a device specific request in a device specific language; and

sending the device specific request in the device specific language to a managed device coupled to the proxy, wherein the proxy is a computational device.

2. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 1, the operations further comprising:

mapping at least one device independent class attribute to at least one device specific class attribute in the modified request;

mapping at least one device independent property to at least one device specific property in the modified request;

generating [a]] the device specific request from the modified request, in response to mapping the at least one device independent class attribute and the at least one device independent property; and

sending the device specific request to [[a]] the managed device, wherein the proxy couples a plurality of hosts to a plurality of managed devices that includes the managed device.

3. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1, the operations further comprising:

further modifying the received request to include at least one association between device specific classes in the class hierarchy.

4. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein the received request indicates a source class and a requested class, the operations further comprising:

determining a specific association between a first device specific class that corresponds to the source class and a second device specific class that corresponds to the specific class, wherein the specific association corresponds to [[a]] the managed device.

5. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 4, wherein the source class represents storage pools and the requested class represents storage volumes corresponding to a storage pool.

6. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein the received request indicates a source class and a base association, the operations further comprising:

determining a first device specific class from the class hierarchy database, wherein the first device specific class has a specific association with a second device specific class that corresponds to the indicated source class, and wherein the specific association corresponds to the base association.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein the request is received from a Common Information Model application, and wherein the at least one device independent class is specified by a Common Information Model schema.

9. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein the request comprises a command that is part of an object oriented management schema for managing non-homogeneous devices in a network environment.

10. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 9, wherein the management schema comprises the Common Information Model.

11. (Currently amended) A method for managing devices, the method comprising:

receiving, by a proxy, a request implemented via at least one device independent class;

traversing, by the proxy, a class hierarchy database to determine at least one device specific class that corresponds to the at least one device independent class, wherein the class hierarchy database stores a class hierarchy and associations between classes; [[and]]

modifying, by the proxy, the received request, wherein in the modified request the least one device independent class has been translated to the at least one device specific class;

generating a device specific request in a device specific language; and

sending the device specific request in the device specific language to a managed device coupled to the proxy, wherein the proxy is a computational device.

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12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

mapping at least one device independent class attribute to at least one device specific class attribute in the modified request;

mapping at least one device independent property to at least one device specific property in the modified request;

generating [[a]] the device specific request from the modified request, in response to mapping the at least one device independent class attribute and the at least one device independent property; and

sending the device specific request to [[a]] the managed device, wherein the proxy couples a plurality of hosts to a plurality of managed devices that includes the managed device.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

further modifying the received request to include at least one association between device specific classes in the class hierarchy.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the received request indicates a source class and a requested class, the method further comprising:

determining a specific association between a first device specific class that corresponds to the source class and a second device specific class that corresponds to the specific class, wherein the specific association corresponds to [[a]] the managed device.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the source class represents storage pools and the requested class represents storage volumes corresponding to a storage pool.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the received request indicates a source class and a base association, the method further comprising:

determining a first device specific class from the class hierarchy database, wherein the first device specific class has a specific association with a second device specific class that corresponds to the indicated source class, and wherein the specific association corresponds to the base association.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the request is received from a Common Information Model application, and wherein the at least one device independent class is specified by a Common Information Model schema.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the request comprises a command that is part of an object oriented management schema for managing non-homogeneous devices in a network environment.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the management schema comprises the Common Information Model.

21. (Currently amended) [[An]] A system for managing devices, comprising:

a processor; [[and]]

a proxy, wherein the processor is included in the proxy, and wherein the proxy is a computational device;

a managed device coupled to the proxy;

program logic including code capable of causing the processor included in the proxy to perform:

receiving, by the proxy, a request implemented via at least one device independent class;

traversing, by the proxy, a class hierarchy database to determine at least one device specific class that corresponds to the at least one device independent class, wherein the class hierarchy database stores a class hierarchy and associations between classes; and

modifying, by the proxy, the received request, wherein in the modified request the least one device independent class has been translated to the at least one device specific class;

generating a device specific request in a device specific language; and

sending the device specific request in the device specific language to the managed device.

22. (Currently amended) The system of claim 21, ~~further comprising:~~

~~a managed device,~~ wherein the program logic is further capable of causing the processor to perform:

mapping at least one device independent class attribute to at least one device specific class attribute in the modified request;

mapping at least one device independent property to at least one device specific property in the modified request;

generating [[a]] the device specific request from the modified request, in response to mapping the at least one device independent class attribute and the at least one device independent property; and

sending the device specific request to the managed device, wherein the proxy couples a plurality of hosts to a plurality of managed devices that includes the managed device.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the program logic is further capable of causing the processor to perform:

further modifying the received request to include at least one association between device specific classes in the class hierarchy.

24. (Currently amended) The system of claim 21, ~~further comprising:~~

~~a managed device,~~ wherein the received request indicates a source class and a requested class, and wherein the program logic is further capable of causing the processor to perform:

determining a specific association between a first device specific class that corresponds to the source class and a second device specific class that corresponds to the specific class, wherein the specific association corresponds to the managed device.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the source class represents storage pools and the requested class represents storage volumes corresponding to a storage pool.

26. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the received request indicates a source class and a base association, and wherein the program logic is further capable of causing the processor to perform:

determining a first device specific class from the class hierarchy database, wherein the first device specific class has a specific association with a second device specific class that corresponds to the indicated source class, and wherein the specific association corresponds to the base association.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the request is received from a Common Information Model application, and wherein the at least one device independent class is specified by a Common Information Model schema.

29. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the request comprises a command that is part of an object oriented management schema for managing non-homogeneous devices in a network environment.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29, wherein the management schema comprises the Common Information Model.

31. (Currently amended) An system for managing devices, comprising:

means for receiving, by a proxy, a request implemented via at least one device independent class;

means for traversing, by the proxy, a class hierarchy database to determine at least one device specific class that corresponds to the at least one device independent class, wherein the class hierarchy database stores a class hierarchy and associations between classes; [[and]]

means for modifying, by the proxy, the received request, wherein in the modified request the least one device independent class has been translated to the at least one device specific class;

means for generating a device specific request in a device specific language; and

means for sending the device specific request in the device specific language to a managed device coupled to the proxy, wherein the proxy is a computational device.

32. (Currently amended) The system of claim 31, further comprising:

means for mapping at least one device independent class attribute to at least one device specific class attribute in the modified request;

means for mapping at least one device independent property to at least one device specific property in the modified request;

means for generating [[a]] the device specific request from the modified request, in response to mapping the at least one device independent class attribute and the at least one device independent property; and

means for sending the device specific request to [[a]] the managed device, wherein the proxy couples a plurality of hosts to a plurality of managed devices that includes the managed device.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the received request indicates a source class and a base association, the system further comprising:

means for determining a first device specific class from the class hierarchy database, wherein the first device specific class has a specific association with a second device specific class that corresponds to the indicated source class, and wherein the specific association corresponds to the base association.